

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 21B-20, 21B-25, 21B-30, 21B-35, 21B-40, and 21B-45 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. Before July 1, 2013, the
8 State Board of Education shall implement a system of educator
9 licensure, whereby individuals employed in school districts
10 who are required to be licensed must have one of the following
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) a
12 professional educator license with stipulations; or (iii) a
13 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding
14 individuals certified or certificated or required to be
15 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall
16 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
17 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
18 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

19 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
20 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
21 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for
22 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

23 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)

1 have successfully completed an approved educator
2 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by
3 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation
4 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required
5 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have
6 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,
7 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for
8 the exceptional child, including without limitation
9 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have
10 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading
11 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other
12 criteria established by rule of the State Board of
13 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.
14 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30
15 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.
16 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with
17 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is
18 eligible to practice.

19 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the
20 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements
21 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework
22 in the endorsement area, unless otherwise specified by
23 rule, and passage of the applicable content area test.

24 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator
25 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement
26 that limits the license holder to one particular position

1 or does not require completion of an approved educator
2 program or both.

3 An individual with an Educator License with
4 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or
5 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher
6 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

7 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
8 with the following endorsements:

9 (A) Provisional educator. A provisional educator
10 endorsement in a specific content area or areas on an
11 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
12 applicant who holds an educator license ~~with a minimum~~
13 ~~of 15 semester hours in content coursework~~ from another
14 state, U.S. territory, or foreign country and who, at
15 the time of applying for an Illinois license, does not
16 meet the minimum requirements under Section 21B-35 of
17 this Code, but does, at a minimum, meet the following
18 requirements:

19 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
20 bachelor's degree, unless a master's degree is
21 required for the endorsement, from a regionally
22 accredited college or university or, for
23 individuals educated in a country other than the
24 United States, the equivalent of a minimum of a
25 bachelor's degree issued in the United States,
26 unless a master's degree is required for the

1 endorsement.

2 (ii) Has passed or passes a test of basic
3 skills and content area test, ~~as required by~~
4 ~~Section 21B-30 of this Code,~~ prior to or within one
5 year after issuance of the provisional educator
6 endorsement on the Educator License with
7 Stipulations. If an individual who holds an
8 Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for
9 provisional educator has not passed a test of basic
10 skills and applicable content area test or tests
11 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,
12 the endorsement shall expire on June 30 following
13 one full year of the endorsement being issued. If
14 such an individual has passed the test of basic
15 skills and applicable content area test or tests
16 either prior to issuance of the endorsement or
17 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,
18 the endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
19 following 2 years of the license being issued,
20 during which time any and all coursework
21 deficiencies must be met and any and all additional
22 testing deficiencies must be met.

23 In addition, a provisional educator endorsement
24 for principals or superintendents may be issued if the
25 individual meets the requirements set forth in
26 subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (b-5) of Section

1 21B-35 of this Code. Applicants who have not been
2 entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation
3 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
4 shall not receive a provisional educator endorsement
5 if the person completed an alternative licensure
6 program in another state, unless the program has been
7 determined to be equivalent to Illinois program
8 requirements.

9 Notwithstanding any other requirements of this
10 Section, a service member or spouse of a service member
11 may obtain a Professional Educator License with
12 Stipulations, and a provisional educator endorsement
13 in a specific content area or areas, if he or she holds
14 a valid teaching certificate or license in good
15 standing from another state, meets the qualifications
16 of educators outlined in Section 21B-15 of this Code,
17 and has not engaged in any misconduct that would
18 prohibit an individual from obtaining a license
19 pursuant to Illinois law, including without limitation
20 any administrative rules of the State Board of
21 Education.

22 In this Section, "service member" means any person
23 who, at the time of application under this Section, is
24 an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces
25 or any reserve component of the United States Armed
26 Forces or the National Guard of any state,

1 commonwealth, or territory of the United States or the
2 District of Columbia.

3 A provisional educator endorsement is valid until
4 June 30 immediately following 2 years of the license
5 being issued, provided that any remaining testing and
6 coursework deficiencies are met as set forth in this
7 Section. Failure to satisfy all stated deficiencies
8 shall mean the individual, including any service
9 member or spouse who has obtained a Professional
10 Educator License with Stipulations and a provisional
11 educator endorsement in a specific content area or
12 areas, is ineligible to receive a Professional
13 Educator License at that time. An Educator License with
14 Stipulations endorsed for provisional educator shall
15 not be renewed for individuals who hold an Educator
16 License with Stipulations and who have held a position
17 in a public school or non-public school recognized by
18 the State Board of Education.

19 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An
20 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
21 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
22 applicant who, at the time of applying for the
23 endorsement, has done all of the following:

24 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
25 college or university with a minimum of a
26 bachelor's degree.

1 (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of
2 the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
3 Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this
4 Code.

5 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content
6 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this
7 Code.

8 The alternative provisional educator endorsement
9 is valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for
10 a third year by an individual meeting the requirements
11 set forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

12 (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An
13 alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the
15 holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant
16 superintendent in a school district's central office.
17 This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant
18 who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has
19 done all of the following:

20 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
21 college or university with a minimum of a master's
22 degree in a management field other than education.

23 (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5
24 years in a management level position in a field
25 other than education.

26 (iii) Successfully completed the first phase

1 of an alternative route to superintendent
2 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55
3 of this Code.

4 (iv) Passed a test of basic skills and content
5 area tests required under Section 21B-30 of this
6 Code.

7 The endorsement may be registered for 2 fiscal
8 years in order to complete one full year of serving as
9 a superintendent or assistant superintendent.

10 (D) Resident teacher endorsement. A resident
11 teacher endorsement on an Educator License with
12 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who, at the
13 time of applying for the endorsement, has done all of
14 the following:

15 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
16 institution of higher education with a minimum of a
17 bachelor's degree.

18 (ii) Enrolled in an approved Illinois educator
19 preparation program.

20 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content
21 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this
22 Code.

23 The resident teacher endorsement on an Educator
24 License with Stipulations is valid for 4 years of
25 teaching and shall not be renewed.

26 A resident teacher may teach only under the

1 direction of a licensed teacher, who shall act as the
2 resident mentor teacher, and may not teach in place of
3 a licensed teacher. A resident teacher endorsement on
4 an Educator License with Stipulations shall no longer
5 be valid after June 30, 2017.

6 (E) Career and technical educator. A career and
7 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
8 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has
9 a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a
10 regionally accredited institution of higher education
11 and has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside
12 of education in each area to be taught.

13 The career and technical educator endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
15 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
16 endorsement being issued and may be renewed. For
17 individuals who were issued the career and technical
18 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
19 Stipulations on or after January 1, 2015, the license
20 may be renewed if the individual passes a test of basic
21 skills or test of work proficiency, as required under
22 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

23 (F) Part-time provisional career and technical
24 educator or provisional career and technical educator.
25 A part-time provisional career and technical educator
26 endorsement or a provisional career and technical

1 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
2 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has a
3 minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience in the skill
4 for which the applicant is seeking the endorsement. It
5 is the responsibility of each employing school board
6 and regional office of education to provide
7 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent
8 of Education at the time the application is submitted
9 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional
10 Educator License or an Educator License with
11 Stipulations with a career and technical educator
12 endorsement is available and that actual circumstances
13 require such issuance.

14 The provisional career and technical educator
15 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
16 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
17 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed only
18 one time for 5 years. For individuals who were issued
19 the provisional career and technical educator
20 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
21 on or after January 1, 2015, the license may be renewed
22 one time if the individual passes a test of basic
23 skills or test of work proficiency, as required under
24 Section 21B-30 of this Code, and has completed a
25 minimum of 20 semester hours from a regionally
26 accredited institution.

1 A part-time provisional career and technical
2 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
3 Stipulations may be issued for teaching no more than 2
4 courses of study for grades 6 through 12. The part-time
5 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
6 on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
7 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
8 endorsement being issued and may be renewed for 5 years
9 if the individual makes application for renewal.

10 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A
11 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an
12 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for
13 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance
14 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who
15 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all
16 of the following requirements:

17 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
18 writing ability in the language other than English
19 in which transitional bilingual education is
20 offered.

21 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
22 communicate in English.

23 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
24 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
25 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
26 comparable teaching certificate or comparable

1 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
2 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
3 a foreign country that the State Educator
4 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
5 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
6 regionally accredited institution of higher
7 learning in the United States.

8 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
9 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12, is
10 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
11 the endorsement being issued, and shall not be renewed.

12 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
13 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
14 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
15 replaced for any reason.

16 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to
17 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language
18 other than English in the public schools, an individual
19 who holds an Educator License with Stipulations may
20 also apply for a language endorsement, provided that
21 the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that he
22 or she meets all of the following requirements:

23 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
24 endorsement.

25 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
26 language for which the endorsement is to be issued

1 by passing the applicable language content test
2 required by the State Board of Education.

3 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
4 a regionally accredited institution of higher
5 education or, for individuals educated in a
6 country other than the United States, holds a
7 degree from an institution of higher learning in a
8 foreign country that the State Educator
9 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
10 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
11 regionally accredited institution of higher
12 learning in the United States.

13 (iv) Has passed a test of basic skills, as
14 required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

15 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
16 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
17 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
18 individual's transitional bilingual educator
19 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
20 and shall not be renewed.

21 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting
22 international educator endorsement on an Educator
23 License with Stipulations may be issued to an
24 individual who is being recruited by a particular
25 school district that conducts formal recruitment
26 programs outside of the United States to secure the

1 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the
2 following requirements:

3 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
4 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

5 (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the
6 grade level for which he or she will be employed.

7 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
8 subject to be taught.

9 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
10 language.

11 A holder of a visiting international educator
12 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
13 shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education
14 programs in the language that was the medium of
15 instruction in his or her teacher preparation program,
16 provided that he or she passes the English Language
17 Proficiency Examination or another test of writing
18 skills in English identified by the State Board of
19 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
20 Preparation and Licensure Board.

21 A visiting international educator endorsement on
22 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 3
23 years and shall not be renewed.

24 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
25 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
26 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a

1 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
2 either holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
3 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
4 institution of higher education or has passed a test of
5 basic skills required under Section 21B-30 of this
6 Code. The paraprofessional educator endorsement is
7 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
8 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through
9 application and payment of the appropriate fee, as
10 required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An
11 individual who holds only a paraprofessional educator
12 endorsement is not subject to additional requirements
13 in order to renew the endorsement.

14 (K) Chief school business official. A chief school
15 business official endorsement on an Educator License
16 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
17 qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2
18 years of full-time administrative experience in school
19 business management or 2 years of university-approved
20 practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester
21 hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the
22 State Board of Education for the preparation of school
23 business administrators and by passage of the
24 applicable State tests, including a test of basic
25 skills and applicable content area test.

26 The chief school business official endorsement may

1 also be affixed to the Educator License with
2 Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a
3 master's degree in business administration, finance,
4 or accounting and who completes an additional 6
5 semester hours of internship in school business
6 management from a regionally accredited institution of
7 higher education and passes the applicable State
8 tests, including a test of basic skills and applicable
9 content area test. This endorsement shall be required
10 for any individual employed as a chief school business
11 official.

12 The chief school business official endorsement on
13 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
14 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
15 endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the
16 license holder completes renewal requirements as
17 required for individuals who hold a Professional
18 Educator License endorsed for chief school business
19 official under Section 21B-45 of this Code and such
20 rules as may be adopted by the State Board of
21 Education.

22 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
23 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
24 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
25 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation
26 program at an Illinois institution of higher education

1 and who has not successfully completed an
2 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
3 who meets all of the following requirements:

4 (i) Holds at least a bachelor's degree.

5 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
6 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

7 (iii) Has passed a test of basic skills and
8 applicable content area test, as required by
9 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

10 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
11 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
12 minimum score on that assessment, as established
13 by the State Board of Education in consultation
14 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15 Board.

16 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
17 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
18 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
19 be renewed.

20 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching
21 License may be issued to qualified applicants for
22 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,
23 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching
24 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for
25 a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree
26 or higher from a regionally accredited institution of

1 higher education.

2 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years ~~and~~
3 ~~may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic~~
4 ~~skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An~~
5 ~~individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the~~
6 ~~first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test~~
7 ~~again for further renewals.~~

8 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute
9 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual
10 has had his or her Professional Educator License or
11 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or
12 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then
13 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute
14 Teaching License.

15 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a
16 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing
17 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under
18 contract because of an emergency situation, then a district
19 may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30
20 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if
21 the district notifies the appropriate regional office of
22 education within 5 business days after the employment of
23 the substitute teacher in the emergency situation. An
24 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy
25 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unable to fulfill his or
26 her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of

1 the district exceed previous indications, and the district
2 is actively engaged in advertising to hire a fully licensed
3 teacher for the vacant position.

4 There is no limit on the number of days that a
5 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,
6 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer
7 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under
8 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who
9 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License
10 with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school
11 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the
12 same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on
13 the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do
14 not apply to any school district operating under Article 34
15 of this Code.

16 (Source: P.A. 98-28, eff. 7-1-13; 98-751, eff. 1-1-15; 99-35,
17 eff. 1-1-16; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; revised
18 10-14-15.)

19 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

20 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued
21 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be
22 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each
23 content area, school support area, and administrative area for
24 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized
25 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs

1 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to
2 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the endorsement
3 or endorsements, including passing any required tests. The
4 State Superintendent of Education shall randomly audit
5 institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are being
6 followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being
7 recommended.

8 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with
9 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall
10 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area
11 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator
12 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for
13 obtaining each endorsement.

14 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content
15 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of
16 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
17 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the
18 requirements for the following endorsements:

19 (A) General administrative endorsement. A general
20 administrative endorsement shall be added to a
21 Professional Educator License, provided that an
22 approved program has been completed. An individual
23 holding a general administrative endorsement may work
24 only as a principal or assistant principal or in a
25 related or similar position, as determined by the State
26 Superintendent of Education, in consultation with the

1 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

2 Beginning on September 1, 2014, the general
3 administrative endorsement shall no longer be issued
4 except to individuals who completed all coursework
5 requirements for the receipt of the general
6 administrative endorsement by September 1, 2014, who
7 have completed all testing requirements by June 30,
8 2016, and who apply for the endorsement on or before
9 June 30, 2016. Individuals who hold a valid and
10 registered administrative certificate with a general
11 administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1
12 of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a
13 general administrative endorsement issued prior to
14 September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one
15 full year during the 5 years prior in a position
16 requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,
17 upon request to the State Board of Education and
18 through July 1, 2015, have their respective general
19 administrative endorsement converted to a principal
20 endorsement on the Professional Educator License.
21 Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general
22 administrative preparation program after September 1,
23 2012.

24 All other individuals holding a valid and
25 registered administrative certificate with a general
26 administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section

1 21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative
2 endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued
3 prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general
4 administrative endorsement converted to a principal
5 endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon
6 request to the State Board of Education and by
7 completing one of the following pathways:

8 (i) Passage of the State principal assessment
9 developed by the State Board of Education.

10 (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an
11 Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by
12 the State Superintendent of Education.

13 (iii) Completion of a principal preparation
14 program established and approved pursuant to
15 Section 21B-60 of this Code and applicable rules.

16 Individuals who do not choose to convert the
17 general administrative endorsement on the
18 administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section
19 21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator
20 License shall continue to be able to serve in any
21 position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of
22 subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

23 The general administrative endorsement on the
24 Professional Educator License is available only to
25 individuals who, prior to September 1, 2014, had such
26 an endorsement on the administrative certificate

1 issued pursuant to Section 21-7.1 of this Code or who
2 already have a Professional Educator License and have
3 completed a general administrative program and who do
4 not choose to convert the general administrative
5 endorsement to a principal endorsement pursuant to the
6 options in this Section.

7 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement
8 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of
9 any holder who qualifies by having all of the
10 following:

11 (i) Successful completion of a principal
12 preparation program approved in accordance with
13 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable
14 rules.

15 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or,
16 until June 30, 2019, working in the capacity of
17 school support personnel in an Illinois public
18 school or nonpublic school recognized by the State
19 Board of Education or in an out-of-state public
20 school or out-of-state nonpublic school meeting
21 out-of-state recognition standards comparable to
22 those approved by the State Superintendent of
23 Education; however, the State Board of Education,
24 in consultation with the State Educator
25 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall allow, by
26 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based

1 on meeting standards set forth in such rules,
2 including without limitation a review of
3 performance evaluations or other evidence of
4 demonstrated qualifications.

5 (iii) A master's degree or higher from a
6 regionally accredited college or university.

7 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A
8 chief school business official endorsement shall be
9 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
10 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or
11 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience
12 in school business management or 2 years of
13 university-approved practical experience, and a
14 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a
15 program approved by the State Board of Education for
16 the preparation of school business administrators and
17 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief
18 school business official endorsement may also be
19 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
20 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in
21 business administration, finance, or accounting and
22 who completes an additional 6 semester hours of
23 internship in school business management from a
24 regionally accredited institution of higher education
25 and passes the applicable State tests. This
26 endorsement shall be required for any individual

1 employed as a chief school business official.

2 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent
3 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional
4 Educator License of any holder who has completed a
5 program approved by the State Board of Education for
6 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had
7 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a
8 general administrative position or as a full-time
9 principal, director of special education, or chief
10 school business official in the public schools or in a
11 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief
12 administrator is required to have the licensure
13 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this
14 State and where a majority of the teachers are required
15 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a
16 public school in this State, and has passed the
17 required State tests; or of any holder who has
18 completed a program that is not an Illinois-approved
19 educator preparation program at an Illinois
20 institution of higher education and that has
21 recognition standards comparable to those approved by
22 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the
23 general administrative, principal, or chief school
24 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years
25 of experience as a principal, director of special
26 education, or chief school business official while

1 holding a valid educator license or certificate
2 comparable in validity and educational and experience
3 requirements and has passed the appropriate State
4 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The
5 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to
6 serve only as a superintendent or assistant
7 superintendent.

8 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the
9 policy of this State to improve the quality of
10 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway
11 for teachers interested in serving in leadership
12 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of
13 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
14 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher
15 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons
16 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of
17 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader
18 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for
19 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may
20 qualify to serve in such positions as department
21 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction
22 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by
23 the district. The endorsement shall be available to
24 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator
25 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a
26 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have

1 completed a program of study that has been approved by
2 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
3 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and
4 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as
5 defined by rule. ~~have taken coursework in all of the~~
6 ~~following areas:~~

7 ~~(I) Leadership.~~

8 ~~(II) Designing professional development to~~
9 ~~meet teaching and learning needs.~~

10 ~~(III) Building school culture that focuses on~~
11 ~~student learning.~~

12 ~~(IV) Using assessments to improve student~~
13 ~~learning and foster school improvement.~~

14 ~~(V) Building collaboration with teachers and~~
15 ~~stakeholders.~~

16 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in
17 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may
18 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this
19 Code, provided that the individual has completed the
20 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this
21 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate
22 personnel under the respective school district's
23 collective bargaining agreement.

24 The State Board of Education, in consultation with
25 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,
26 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish

1 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program
2 and to specify the positions for which this endorsement
3 shall be required.

4 (F) Special education endorsement. A special
5 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be
6 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any
7 individual that meets those requirements established
8 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special
9 education endorsement areas shall include without
10 limitation the following:

- 11 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- 12 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
- 13 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
- 14 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;
- 15 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing; and
- 16 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education.

17 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,
18 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
19 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may
20 add additional areas of special education by rule.

21 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School
22 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but
23 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and
24 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech
25 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school
26 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who

1 are not teachers or administrators, but still require
2 licensure to work in an instructional support position
3 in a public or State-operated elementary school,
4 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement
5 with a governing body or board of control or a charter
6 school operating in compliance with the Charter
7 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement
8 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License
9 and shall meet all of the requirements established in
10 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).
11 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of
12 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other
13 Professional Educator License, including teacher
14 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

15 Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April
16 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator
17 License with a school speech and language pathologist
18 (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school
19 speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement
20 for a school speech and language pathologist
21 (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the
22 State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for
23 this exchange.

24 (Source: P.A. 98-413, eff. 8-16-13; 98-610, eff. 12-27-13;
25 98-872, eff. 8-11-14; 98-917, eff. 8-15-14; 98-1147, eff.
26 12-31-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

1 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

2 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

3 (a) This Section applies beginning on July 1, 2012.

4 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
5 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
6 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be required
7 prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These examinations
8 and indicators must be based on national and State professional
9 teaching standards, as determined by the State Board of
10 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
11 and Licensure Board. The State Board of Education may adopt
12 such rules as may be necessary to implement and administer this
13 Section. ~~No score on a test required under this Section, other
14 than a test of basic skills, shall be more than 10 years old at
15 the time that an individual makes application for an educator
16 license or endorsement.~~

17 (c) Applicants seeking a Professional Educator License or
18 an Educator License with Stipulations shall be required to pass
19 a test of basic skills before the license is issued, unless the
20 endorsement the individual is seeking does not require passage
21 of the test. All applicants completing Illinois-approved,
22 teacher education or school service personnel preparation
23 programs shall be required to pass the State Board of
24 Education's recognized test of basic skills prior to starting
25 their student teaching or starting the final semester of their

1 internship, unless required earlier at the discretion of the
2 recognized, Illinois institution in which they are completing
3 their approved program. An individual who passes a test of
4 basic skills does not need to do so again for subsequent
5 endorsements or other educator licenses.

6 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
7 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
8 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There
9 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall
10 be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record
11 until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

12 (e) (Blank). ~~All applicants seeking a State license~~
13 ~~endorsed in a teaching field shall pass the assessment of~~
14 ~~professional teaching (APT). Passage of the APT is required for~~
15 ~~completion of an approved Illinois educator preparation~~
16 ~~program.~~

17 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this Article, beginning
18 Beginning on September 1, 2015, all candidates completing
19 teacher preparation programs in this State and all candidates
20 subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass an
21 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness approved by
22 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
23 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. All recognized
24 institutions offering approved teacher preparation programs
25 must begin phasing in the approved teacher performance
26 assessment no later than July 1, 2013.

1 (g) Tests of basic skills and content area knowledge and
2 the assessment of professional teaching shall be the tests that
3 from time to time are designated by the State Board of
4 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
5 and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an
6 educational testing organization or tests designed by the State
7 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
8 Preparation and Licensure Board. The areas to be covered by a
9 test of basic skills shall include reading, language arts, and
10 mathematics. The test of content area knowledge shall assess
11 content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must
12 be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person
13 taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race,
14 color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the
15 person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score
16 required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of
17 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
18 and Licensure Board. The tests shall be administered not fewer
19 than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated
20 by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
21 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

22 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
23 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
24 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
25 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this Code
26 in the English language and in the language of the transitional

1 bilingual education program requested by the applicant.

2 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
3 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
4 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

5 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
6 testing requirements under this Section shall include without
7 limitation provisions governing test selection, test
8 validation and determination of a passing score,
9 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,
10 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
11 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
12 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop such
13 rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to year
14 in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

15 (Source: P.A. 98-361, eff. 1-1-14; 98-581, eff. 8-27-13;
16 98-756, eff. 7-16-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

17 (105 ILCS 5/21B-35)

18 Sec. 21B-35. Minimum requirements for educators trained in
19 other states or countries.

20 (a) All applicants who have not been entitled by an
21 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
22 institution of higher education applying for a Professional
23 Educator License endorsed in a teaching field or school support
24 personnel area must meet all of the following requirements:

25 (1) Hold a comparable and valid educator license or

1 certificate with similar grade level and subject matter
2 credentials from another state. The State Board of
3 Education shall have the authority to determine what
4 constitutes similar grade level and subject matter
5 credentials from another state. A comparable educator
6 license or certificate is one that demonstrates that the
7 license or certificate holder meets similar requirements
8 as candidates entitled by an Illinois-approved educator
9 preparation program in teaching or school support
10 personnel areas concerning coursework aligned to standards
11 concerning methods of instruction of the exceptional
12 child, methods of reading and reading in the content area,
13 and instructional strategies for English learners. An
14 applicant who holds a comparable and valid educator license
15 or certificate from another state must submit verification
16 to the State Board of Education that the applicant has
17 completed coursework concerning methods of instruction of
18 the exceptional child, methods of reading and reading in
19 the content area, and instructional strategies for English
20 learners. ~~Have completed a comparable state-approved~~
21 ~~education program, as defined by the State Superintendent~~
22 ~~of Education.~~

23 (2) Have a degree from a regionally accredited
24 institution of higher education and the degreed major or a
25 constructed major must directly correspond to the license
26 or endorsement sought.

1 (3) (Blank). ~~Teachers and school support personnel who~~
2 ~~have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator~~
3 ~~preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher~~
4 ~~education shall meet the same requirements concerning~~
5 ~~courses in the methods of instruction of the exceptional~~
6 ~~child as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved~~
7 ~~educator preparation program in teaching and school~~
8 ~~support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

9 (4) (Blank). ~~Teachers and school support personnel who~~
10 ~~have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator~~
11 ~~preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher~~
12 ~~education shall meet the same requirements concerning~~
13 ~~coursework in methods of reading and reading in the content~~
14 ~~area as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved~~
15 ~~educator preparation program in teaching and school~~
16 ~~support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

17 (5) (Blank). ~~Teachers and school support personnel who~~
18 ~~have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator~~
19 ~~preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher~~
20 ~~education shall meet the same requirements concerning~~
21 ~~courses in instructional strategies for English language~~
22 ~~learners as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved~~
23 ~~educator preparation program in teaching and school~~
24 ~~support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

25 (6) Have successfully met all Illinois examination
26 requirements. Applicants who have successfully completed a

1 test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at the time of
2 initial licensure in another state shall not be required to
3 complete a test of basic skills. Applicants who have
4 successfully completed a test of content, as defined by
5 rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state
6 shall not be required to complete a test of content.

7 Applicants for a teaching endorsement who have
8 successfully completed an evidence-based assessment of
9 teacher effectiveness, as defined by rules, at the time of
10 initial licensure in another state shall not be required to
11 complete an evidence-based assessment of teacher
12 effectiveness.

13 (7) For applicants for a teaching endorsement, have
14 completed student teaching or an equivalent experience or,
15 for applicants for a school service personnel endorsement,
16 have completed an internship or an equivalent experience.

17 ~~Teachers and school support personnel who have not been~~
18 ~~entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program~~
19 ~~at an Illinois institution of higher education must submit~~
20 ~~verification to the State Board of Education of having~~
21 ~~completed coursework as required under items (3), (4), and (5)~~
22 ~~of this subsection (a) prior to issuance of a Professional~~
23 ~~Educator License. An individual who is not able to verify~~
24 ~~completion of the coursework as required under items (3), (4),~~
25 ~~and (5) of this subsection (a) may qualify for an Educator~~
26 ~~License with Stipulations with a provisional educator~~

1 ~~endorsement and must complete coursework in those areas~~
2 ~~identified as deficient.~~

3 If one or more of the criteria in this subsection (a) are
4 not met, then applicants who have not been entitled by an
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
6 institution of higher education who hold a valid, comparable
7 certificate from another state may qualify for a provisional
8 educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations,
9 in accordance with Section 21B-20 of this Code.

10 (b) In order to receive a Professional Educator License
11 endorsed in a teaching field, applicants trained in another
12 country must meet all of the following requirements:

13 (1) Have completed a comparable education program in
14 another country.

15 (2) Have had transcripts evaluated by an evaluation
16 service approved by the State Superintendent of Education.

17 (3) Hold a degreed major that must directly correspond
18 to the license or endorsement sought.

19 (4) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in the methods~~
20 ~~of instruction of the exceptional child.~~

21 (5) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in methods of~~
22 ~~reading and reading in the content area.~~

23 (6) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in~~
24 ~~instructional strategies for English learners.~~

25 (7) Have successfully met all State licensure
26 examination requirements. Applicants who have successfully

1 completed a test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at
2 the time of initial licensure in another country shall not
3 be required to complete a test of basic skills. Applicants
4 who have successfully completed a test of content, as
5 defined by rules, at the time of initial licensure in
6 another country shall not be required to complete a test of
7 content. Applicants for a teaching endorsement who have
8 successfully completed an evidence-based assessment of
9 teacher effectiveness, as defined by rules, at the time of
10 initial licensure in another country shall not be required
11 to complete an evidence-based assessment of teacher
12 effectiveness.

13 (8) Have completed student teaching or an equivalent
14 experience.

15 ~~Applicants trained in another country must submit~~
16 ~~verification to the State Board of Education of having~~
17 ~~completed coursework as required under items (4), (5), and (6)~~
18 ~~of this subsection (b) prior to issuance of a Professional~~
19 ~~Educator License. Individuals who are not able to verify~~
20 ~~completion of the coursework as required under items (4), (5),~~
21 ~~and (6) of this subsection (b) may qualify for an Educator~~
22 ~~License with Stipulations with a provisional educator~~
23 ~~endorsement and must complete coursework in those areas~~
24 ~~identified as deficient.~~

25 ~~If one or more of the criteria in this subsection (b) are~~
26 ~~not met, then an applicant trained in another country may~~

1 ~~qualify for a provisional educator endorsement on an Educator~~
2 ~~License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of~~
3 ~~this Code.~~

4 (b-5) All applicants who have not been entitled by an
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
6 institution of higher education and applicants trained in
7 another country applying for a Professional Educator License
8 endorsed for principal or superintendent must meet all of the
9 following requirements:

10 (1) Have completed an educator preparation program
11 approved by another state or comparable educator program in
12 another country leading to the receipt of a license or
13 certificate for the Illinois endorsement sought.

14 (2) Have successfully met all State licensure
15 examination requirements, as required by Section 21B-30 of
16 this Code. Applicants who have successfully completed a
17 test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at the time of
18 initial licensure in another state or country shall not be
19 required to complete a test of basic skills. Applicants who
20 have successfully completed a test of content, as defined
21 by rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state
22 or country shall not be required to complete a test of
23 content.

24 (3) (Blank). ~~Have received a certificate or license~~
25 ~~endorsed in a teaching field.~~

26 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a

1 superintendent or principal may be affixed to an Educator
2 License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of
3 this Code.

4 (b-10) All applicants who have not been entitled by an
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
6 institution of higher education applying for a Professional
7 Educator License endorsed for chief school business official
8 must meet all of the following requirements:

9 (1) Have completed a master's degree in school business
10 management, finance, or accounting.

11 (2) Have successfully completed an internship in
12 school business management or have 2 years of experience as
13 a school business administrator.

14 (3) Have successfully met all State examination
15 requirements, as required by Section 21B-30 of this Code.
16 Applicants who have successfully completed a test of
17 content, as identified by rules, at the time of initial
18 licensure in another state or country shall not be required
19 to complete a test of content.

20 (4) Have successfully completed modules in reading
21 methods, special education, and English Learners.

22 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a chief
23 school business official may be affixed to an Educator License
24 with Stipulations.

25 (c) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
26 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such

1 rules as may be necessary to implement this Section.

2 (Source: P.A. 98-581, eff. 8-27-13; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

3 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)

4 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.

5 (a) Beginning with the start of the new licensure system
6 established pursuant to this Article, the following fees shall
7 be charged to applicants:

8 (1) A \$75 application fee for a Professional Educator
9 License or an Educator License with Stipulations ~~and for~~
10 ~~individuals seeking a Substitute Teaching License.~~
11 However, beginning on January 1, 2015, the application fee
12 for a Professional Educator License and, Educator License
13 with Stipulations, ~~or Substitute Teaching License~~ shall be
14 \$100.

15 (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching
16 License.

17 (2) A \$150 application fee for individuals who have not
18 been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation
19 program at an Illinois institution of higher education and
20 are seeking any of the licenses set forth in subdivision
21 (1) of this subsection (a).

22 (3) A \$50 application fee for each endorsement or
23 approval an individual holding a license wishes to add to
24 that license.

25 (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of

1 the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be
2 paid to the regional office of education having supervision
3 and control over the school in which the individual holding
4 the license is to be employed. If the individual holding
5 the license is not yet employed, then the license may be
6 registered in any county in this State. The registration
7 fee must be paid in its entirety the first time the
8 individual registers the license for a particular validity
9 period in a single region. No additional fee may be charged
10 for that validity period should the individual
11 subsequently register the license in additional regions.
12 An individual must register the license (i) immediately
13 after initial issuance of the license and (ii) at the
14 beginning of each renewal cycle if the individual has
15 satisfied the renewal requirements required under this
16 Code.

17 (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1)
18 through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be
19 deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and
20 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of
21 Education to provide the technology and human resources
22 necessary for the timely and efficient processing of
23 applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available
24 from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be
25 used by the State Board of Education to support the recruitment
26 and retention of educators, to support educator preparation

1 programs as they seek national accreditation, and to provide
2 professional development aligned with the requirements set
3 forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A majority of the funds
4 in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund must be dedicated
5 to the timely and efficient processing of applications and for
6 the renewal of licenses. The Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
7 Fund is not subject to administrative charge transfers,
8 authorized under Section 8h of the State Finance Act, from the
9 Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund into any other fund of
10 this State, and moneys in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
11 Fund shall not revert back to the General Revenue Fund at any
12 time.

13 The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the
14 registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of
15 subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund
16 established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

17 (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office
18 of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience
19 fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license
20 fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the
21 amount required by the credit card processing company or vendor
22 that has entered into a contract with the State Board or
23 regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee must
24 be paid to that company or vendor.

25 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21
26 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this

1 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of
2 the validity period of the certificate and these years have not
3 expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees must
4 be applied to the registration of the new license.

5 (Source: P.A. 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-45)

7 Sec. 21B-45. Professional Educator License renewal.

8 (a) Individuals holding a Professional Educator License
9 are required to complete the licensure renewal requirements as
10 specified in this Section, unless otherwise provided in this
11 Code.

12 Individuals holding a Professional Educator License shall
13 meet the renewal requirements set forth in this Section, unless
14 otherwise provided in this Code. If an individual holds a
15 license endorsed in more than one area that has different
16 renewal requirements, that individual shall follow the renewal
17 requirements for the position for which he or she spends the
18 majority of his or her time working.

19 (b) All Professional Educator Licenses not renewed as
20 provided in this Section shall lapse on September 1 of that
21 year. Lapsed licenses may be immediately reinstated upon (i)
22 payment by the applicant of a \$500 penalty to the State Board
23 of Education or (ii) the demonstration of proficiency by
24 completing 9 semester hours of coursework from a regionally
25 accredited institution of higher education in the content area

1 that most aligns with one or more of the educator's endorsement
2 areas. Any and all back fees, including without limitation
3 registration fees owed from the time of expiration of the
4 license until the date of reinstatement, shall be paid and kept
5 in accordance with the provisions in Article 3 of this Code
6 concerning an institute fund and the provisions in Article 21B
7 of this Code concerning fees and requirements for registration.
8 Licenses not registered in accordance with Section 21B-40 of
9 this Code shall lapse after a period of 6 months from the
10 expiration of the last year of registration. An unregistered
11 license is invalid after September 1 for employment and
12 performance of services in an Illinois public or State-operated
13 school or cooperative and in a charter school. Any license or
14 endorsement may be voluntarily surrendered by the license
15 holder. A voluntarily surrendered license, except a substitute
16 teaching license issued under Section 21B-20 of this Code,
17 shall be treated as a revoked license. An Educator License with
18 Stipulations with only a paraprofessional endorsement does not
19 lapse.

20 (c) From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, in order to
21 satisfy the requirements for licensure renewal provided for in
22 this Section, each professional educator licensee with an
23 administrative endorsement who is working in a position
24 requiring such endorsement shall complete one Illinois
25 Administrators' Academy course, as described in Article 2 of
26 this Code, per fiscal year.

1 (d) Beginning July 1, 2014, in order to satisfy the
2 requirements for licensure renewal provided for in this
3 Section, each professional educator licensee may create a
4 professional development plan each year. The plan shall address
5 one or more of the endorsements that are required of his or her
6 educator position if the licensee is employed and performing
7 services in an Illinois public or State-operated school or
8 cooperative. If the licensee is employed in a charter school,
9 the plan shall address that endorsement or those endorsements
10 most closely related to his or her educator position. Licensees
11 employed and performing services in any other Illinois schools
12 may participate in the renewal requirements by adhering to the
13 same process.

14 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the
15 licensee's professional development activities shall align
16 with one or more of the following criteria:

17 (1) activities are of a type that engage participants
18 over a sustained period of time allowing for analysis,
19 discovery, and application as they relate to student
20 learning, social or emotional achievement, or well-being;

21 (2) professional development aligns to the licensee's
22 performance;

23 (3) outcomes for the activities must relate to student
24 growth or district improvement;

25 (4) activities align to State-approved standards; and

26 (5) higher education coursework.

1 (e) For each renewal cycle, each professional educator
2 licensee shall engage in professional development activities.
3 Prior to renewal, the licensee shall enter electronically into
4 the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) the name,
5 date, and location of the activity, the number of professional
6 development hours, and the provider's name. The following
7 provisions shall apply concerning professional development
8 activities:

9 (1) Each licensee shall complete a total of 120 hours
10 of professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in
11 order to renew the license, except as otherwise provided in
12 this Section.

13 (2) Beginning with his or her first full 5-year cycle,
14 any licensee with an administrative endorsement who is not
15 working in a position requiring such endorsement shall
16 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as
17 described in Article 2 of this Code, in each 5-year renewal
18 cycle in which the administrative endorsement was held for
19 at least one year. The Illinois Administrators' Academy
20 course may count toward the total of 120 hours per 5-year
21 cycle.

22 (3) Any licensee with an administrative endorsement
23 who is working in a position requiring such endorsement or
24 an individual with a Teacher Leader endorsement serving in
25 an administrative capacity at least 50% of the day shall
26 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as

1 described in Article 2 of this Code, each fiscal year in
2 addition to 100 hours of professional development per
3 5-year renewal cycle in accordance with this Code.

4 (4) Any licensee holding a current National Board for
5 Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) master teacher
6 designation shall complete a total of 60 hours of
7 professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in order
8 to renew the license.

9 (5) Licensees working in a position that does not
10 require educator licensure or working in a position for
11 less than 50% for any particular year are considered to be
12 exempt and shall be required to pay only the registration
13 fee in order to renew and maintain the validity of the
14 license.

15 (6) Licensees who are retired and qualify for benefits
16 from a State retirement system shall notify the State Board
17 of Education using ELIS, and the license shall be
18 maintained in retired status. For any renewal cycle in
19 which a licensee retires during the renewal cycle, the
20 licensee must complete professional development activities
21 on a prorated basis depending on the number of years during
22 the renewal cycle the educator held an active license. If a
23 licensee retires during a renewal cycle, the licensee must
24 notify the State Board of Education using ELIS that the
25 licensee wishes to maintain the license in retired status
26 and must show proof of completion of professional

1 development activities on a prorated basis for all years of
2 that renewal cycle for which the license was active. An
3 individual with a license in retired status shall not be
4 required to complete professional development activities
5 or pay registration fees until returning to a position that
6 requires educator licensure. Upon returning to work in a
7 position that requires the Professional Educator License,
8 the licensee shall immediately pay a registration fee and
9 complete renewal requirements for that year. A license in
10 retired status cannot lapse. Beginning on the effective
11 date of this amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly
12 through December 31, 2017, any licensee who has retired and
13 whose license has lapsed for failure to renew as provided
14 in this Section may reinstate that license and maintain it
15 in retired status upon providing proof to the State Board
16 of Education using ELIS that the licensee is retired and is
17 not working in a position that requires a Professional
18 Educator License.

19 (7) For any renewal cycle in which professional
20 development hours were required, but not fulfilled, the
21 licensee shall complete any missed hours to total the
22 minimum professional development hours required in this
23 Section prior to September 1 of that year. For any fiscal
24 year or renewal cycle in which an Illinois Administrators'
25 Academy course was required but not completed, the licensee
26 shall complete any missed Illinois Administrators' Academy

1 courses prior to September 1 of that year. The licensee may
2 complete all deficient hours and Illinois Administrators'
3 Academy courses while continuing to work in a position that
4 requires that license until September 1 of that year.

5 (8) Any licensee who has not fulfilled the professional
6 development renewal requirements set forth in this Section
7 at the end of any 5-year renewal cycle is ineligible to
8 register his or her license and may submit an appeal to the
9 State Superintendent of Education for reinstatement of the
10 license.

11 (9) If professional development opportunities were
12 unavailable to a licensee, proof that opportunities were
13 unavailable and request for an extension of time beyond
14 August 31 to complete the renewal requirements may be
15 submitted from April 1 through June 30 of that year to the
16 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. If an
17 extension is approved, the license shall remain valid
18 during the extension period.

19 (10) Individuals who hold exempt licenses prior to
20 December 27, 2013 (the effective date of Public Act 98-610)
21 ~~this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~ shall
22 commence the annual renewal process with the first
23 scheduled registration due after December 27, 2013 (the
24 effective date of Public Act 98-610) ~~this amendatory Act of~~
25 ~~the 98th General Assembly~~.

26 (f) At the time of renewal, each licensee shall respond to

1 the required questions under penalty of perjury.

2 (g) The following entities shall be designated as approved
3 to provide professional development activities for the renewal
4 of Professional Educator Licenses:

5 (1) The State Board of Education.

6 (2) Regional offices of education and intermediate
7 service centers.

8 (3) Illinois professional associations representing
9 the following groups that are approved by the State
10 Superintendent of Education:

11 (A) school administrators;

12 (B) principals;

13 (C) school business officials;

14 (D) teachers, including special education
15 teachers;

16 (E) school boards;

17 (F) school districts;

18 (G) parents; and

19 (H) school service personnel.

20 (4) Regionally accredited institutions of higher
21 education that offer Illinois-approved educator
22 preparation programs and public community colleges subject
23 to the Public Community College Act.

24 (5) Illinois public school districts, charter schools
25 authorized under Article 27A of this Code, and joint
26 educational programs authorized under Article 10 of this

1 Code for the purposes of providing career and technical
2 education or special education services.

3 (6) A not-for-profit organization that, as of December
4 31, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act 98-1147) ~~this~~
5 ~~amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~, has had or has
6 a grant from or a contract with the State Board of
7 Education to provide professional development services in
8 the area of English Learning to Illinois school districts,
9 teachers, or administrators.

10 (7) State agencies, State boards, and State
11 commissions.

12 (8) ~~(7)~~ Museums as defined in Section 10 of the Museum
13 Disposition of Property Act.

14 (h) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section
15 shall make available professional development opportunities
16 that satisfy at least one of the following:

17 (1) increase the knowledge and skills of school and
18 district leaders who guide continuous professional
19 development;

20 (2) improve the learning of students;

21 (3) organize adults into learning communities whose
22 goals are aligned with those of the school and district;

23 (4) deepen educator's content knowledge;

24 (5) provide educators with research-based
25 instructional strategies to assist students in meeting
26 rigorous academic standards;

1 (6) prepare educators to appropriately use various
2 types of classroom assessments;

3 (7) use learning strategies appropriate to the
4 intended goals;

5 (8) provide educators with the knowledge and skills to
6 collaborate; or

7 (9) prepare educators to apply research to
8 decision-making.

9 (i) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section
10 shall do the following:

11 (1) align professional development activities to the
12 State-approved national standards for professional
13 learning;

14 (2) meet the professional development criteria for
15 Illinois licensure renewal;

16 (3) produce a rationale for the activity that explains
17 how it aligns to State standards and identify the
18 assessment for determining the expected impact on student
19 learning or school improvement;

20 (4) maintain original documentation for completion of
21 activities; and

22 (5) provide license holders with evidence of
23 completion of activities.

24 (j) The State Board of Education shall conduct annual
25 audits of approved providers, except for school districts,
26 which shall be audited by regional offices of education and

1 intermediate service centers. The State Board of Education
2 shall complete random audits of licensees.

3 (1) Approved providers shall annually submit to the
4 State Board of Education a list of subcontractors used for
5 delivery of professional development activities for which
6 renewal credit was issued and other information as defined
7 by rule.

8 (2) Approved providers shall annually submit data to
9 the State Board of Education demonstrating how the
10 professional development activities impacted one or more
11 of the following:

12 (A) educator and student growth in regards to
13 content knowledge or skills, or both;

14 (B) educator and student social and emotional
15 growth; or

16 (C) alignment to district or school improvement
17 plans.

18 (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall review
19 the annual data collected by the State Board of Education,
20 regional offices of education, and intermediate service
21 centers in audits to determine if the approved provider has
22 met the criteria and should continue to be an approved
23 provider or if further action should be taken as provided
24 in rules.

25 (k) Registration fees shall be paid for the next renewal
26 cycle between April 1 and June 30 in the last year of each

1 5-year renewal cycle using ELIS. If all required professional
2 development hours for the renewal cycle have been completed and
3 entered by the licensee, the licensee shall pay the
4 registration fees for the next cycle using a form of credit or
5 debit card.

6 (l) Beginning July 1, 2014, any professional educator
7 licensee endorsed for school support personnel who is employed
8 and performing services in Illinois public schools and who
9 holds an active and current professional license issued by the
10 Department of Financial and Professional Regulation related to
11 the endorsement areas on the Professional Educator License
12 shall be deemed to have satisfied the continuing professional
13 development requirements provided for in this Section. Such
14 individuals shall be required to pay only registration fees to
15 renew the Professional Educator License. An individual who does
16 not hold a license issued by the Department of Financial and
17 Professional Regulation shall complete professional
18 development requirements for the renewal of a Professional
19 Educator License provided for in this Section.

20 (m) Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
21 Board must be made within 30 days after receipt of notice from
22 the State Superintendent of Education that a license will not
23 be renewed based upon failure to complete the requirements of
24 this Section. A licensee may appeal that decision to the State
25 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board in a manner prescribed
26 by rule.

1 (1) Each appeal shall state the reasons why the State
2 Superintendent's decision should be reversed and shall be
3 sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the
4 State Board of Education.

5 (2) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
6 shall review each appeal regarding renewal of a license
7 within 90 days after receiving the appeal in order to
8 determine whether the licensee has met the requirements of
9 this Section. The State Educator Preparation and Licensure
10 Board may hold an appeal hearing or may make its
11 determination based upon the record of review, which shall
12 consist of the following:

13 (A) the regional superintendent of education's
14 rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license,
15 if applicable;

16 (B) any evidence submitted to the State
17 Superintendent along with the individual's electronic
18 statement of assurance for renewal; and

19 (C) the State Superintendent's rationale for
20 nonrenewal of the license.

21 (3) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
22 shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license
23 renewal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no
24 later than 30 days after reaching a decision. Upon receipt
25 of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall
26 pay the applicable registration fee for the next cycle

1 using a form of credit or debit card.

2 (n) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as may be
3 necessary to implement this Section.

4 (Source: P.A. 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 98-1147, eff. 12-31-14;
5 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-130, eff. 7-24-15; revised 10-21-15.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.